

WEEKEND

It's time for
a pillow fight! **3**

Final Four
bar specials **8**

Kanye kicks hit
the market **20**

Hardest Sudoku
of the week **22**



Saturday
APRIL 4, 2009

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REDEYE PHOTO



Marking your man

Who says engagement rings are for ladies only? **pages 6-7**



RedEye loves Twitter nation

Our never-ending effort to connect with our readers has led RedEye to Twitter, the social networking site that allows you to tell your followers what you're doing in 140 characters or less. Still don't get it? Learn more at tweeternet.com. And when you're done, follow our RedEye staffers.

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50³⁷

TODAY'S FORECAST

Sun and warmth. Enjoy it while you can ...



SUN. 40 31

... cuz rain is coming



MON. 36 30

So is snow!



TUE. 39 29

Yes, 20s again



WED. 46 36

Better, we guess

Listen up, guys. RedEye wants to play matchmaker for you. "The Hookup" sets up Chicago singles for a night on the town. And we're looking for eligible bachelors.

The only catch: You have to dish about your experience with us and our readers. We pair you up, you go on the date and, afterward, you tell us how it went. C'mon, what do you have to lose? Sign up at redeychicago.com/thehookup.



A **Chicago Tribune** publication
redeychicago.com

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Circulation: redservice@tribune.com

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Lakeview • Lincoln Park • Naperville • Oak Brook
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playlist

sat

Indie in the Windy City Handcrafted Market

UPTOWN

More than 30 vendors from Chicagoland sell handmade clothing, jewelry, accessories, toys, paper goods, soy candles and more. Coffee and baked goods available for purchase. 10 a.m. The Chelsea House, 920 W. Wilson Ave. 773-561-2450.



Jelly Belly Trunk Show

LAKEVIEW

Sample more than 50 types of jelly beans, meet Mr. Jelly Belly and see the Jelly Belly Mobile (11 a.m.-2 p.m.). 11 a.m. Candyality, 3425 N. Southport Ave. 773-472-7800.

FREE

Run for the Cheetah

LINCOLN PARK

The second annual 5K walk and jog through Lincoln Park raises awareness about the endangered cat. 9 a.m. Registration: runforthecheetah.org. Lincoln Park, 1600 N. Stockton Drive. \$25

Pillow Fight Day

LOOP

Meet near the Art Institute to participate in International Pillow Fight Day, a worldwide event organized through the Internet and grassroots promotion where participants create unsanctioned pillow fights in public spaces. More info at pillowfightchicago@yahoo.com. Art Institute of Chicago, 111 S. Michigan Ave., 2 p.m.

FREE

Windy City Rollers


UNIVERSITY VILLAGE

The fourth bout of the season features The Fury against Hell's Belles and The Manic Attackers versus the Double Crossers. 6 p.m. RSVP required: windycityrollers.com. UIC Pavilion, 525 S. Racine Ave. 312-413-5740. \$20

HIDDEN AGENDA

Leapin' lizards!

ReptileFest

 University of Illinois Chicago Physical Education Building, 901 W. Roosevelt Rd., 312-409-4456; reptilefest.com

Check it out if you ... have a soft spot for scaly critters, want to learn how to take better care of your exotic pets, like learning about animals through hands-on interactions.

The deets: Hosted by the Chicago Herpetological Society, the 16th annual ReptileFest is the largest of its kind in the country. From 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, you can browse 40,000 square feet of exhibit space packed with snakes, lizards, alligators, crocodiles, tortoises and turtles—and experts who can tell you all about them. None of the animals is for sale, so you don't have to worry about impulsively buying a new pet. But if you are looking for a souvenir, reptile-focused books, jewelry and clothing are available. Because the focus of the event is on education instead of commerce, the event brings out many local conservation groups and private collectors showing off rare animals. Admission is \$8, \$6 for kids ages 3-11. **The payoff:** Getting to pet and feed your way through a menagerie of unusual animals and taking the pictures to prove it.



TRIBUNE FILE

THE GAMER

Who's playing at home



Bulls vs. New Jersey
1 p.m. Saturday,
United Center

Visit metromix.com for NCAA Tournament bar specials.



sun

Diva Brunch

UPTOWN

The Spot transforms into a gilded glamor den as a rotating roster of cabaret performers, musical theater singers and drag artists serenade you while you dine. Includes brunch, entertainment and mimosas, bellinis, coffee and tea. 11 a.m. Reservations: scootyjojo.com. The Spot, 4437 N. Broadway 773-728-8934. \$35-\$50.

Walk of Shame Comedy Tour

OLD TOWN

Features comedians Brendan T. Gleason, Nick Hoff, Kevin Richards and Law Smith. 8:30 p.m. Zanies, 1548 N. Wells St. 312-337-4027. \$15 plus a two-item food or beverage minimum.

all wknd

Doc Films: 'Slumdog' and 'Quantum'

HYDE PARK

View films at the University of Chicago's regular screening session. 7 p.m. Saturday "Quantum of Solace;" 9:15 p.m. Saturday "Quantum of Solace;" 1 p.m. Sunday "Slumdog Millionaire;" 3:30 p.m. Sunday "Quantum of Solace;" 7 p.m. Sunday "Record of a Tenement Gentleman;" Through April 30. Ida Noyes Hall, University of Chicago, 1212 E. 59th St. 773-702-8575. \$5

"Quantum"



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Lincoln Park/Halsted 801 W. Diversey (next to Dunkin' Donuts) .. 773-868-0912
(Se Habla Español)
Lincolnwood 6160 N. Lincoln Ave.
(Corner of Lincoln and McCormick, next to Radio Shack) .. 773-866-9999
South Loop Roosevelt & Canal (next to Dunkin' Donuts) 312-566-9600

Suburbs

Addison 1008 Rohlwing Rd.
(Walmart & Best Buy Center) 630-620-4171
Algonquin 776 Randall Rd. (In front of Target & Kohl's) 847-658-7654
Arlington Heights 1007 East Rand Rd. (2 lights south of
Palatine Rd. on corner of Rand & Beverly next to La-Z-Boy) .. 847-870-1275
Aurora 1076 Route 59 (across from Keywester restaurant) 630-499-5080
Berwyn Store & Clearance Center 7050 W. Cermak Rd.
(across from Circuit City) (Se Habla Español) 708-788-4770
Bloomington 185 East Lake St. (next to Rosati's) 630-980-0690
Bolingbrook 145 N. Weber Rd. (Home Depot Center) 630-378-3100
Carol Stream Army Trail & Kuhn (west of Lowe's) 630-933-8800
Chicago Ridge 9935-51 S. Ridgeland Ave.
(across from Chicago Ridge Commons next to Verizon) 708-346-9944

Crystal Lake 6107 Northwest Hwy.
(Route 14 across from Best Buy) 815-444-1010
Darien 2415 75th Ave. at 75th & Lyman (next to Walmart) 630-985-5599
Deerfield 92 Waukegan Rd. (Deerbrook Mall next to Jewel) 847-205-2541
DeKalb 2395 Sycamore Rd. (at Barber Greene Rd.) 815-758-4320
Downers Grove Store & Clearance Center
1546 75th St. (2 blocks W. of Lemont Rd.) 630-435-1615
(at Barrington Rd. next to Walgreens)
Elmhurst Route 83 & St. Charles Rd.
(between Kohl's & Sears Essentials) 630-833-9233
Evergreen Park 2349 W. 95th St.
(corner of 95th & Western, across from Evergreen Plaza) 773-238-6369
Geneva 1749 S. Randall Rd. (next to Walter E. Smith) 630-262-0066
Gurnee 6541 Grand Ave.
(Corner of Grand & Hunt Club Rd., between Best Buy & Target) 847-855-0768
Hanover Park Store & Clearance Center 1625 Irving Park Rd.
(at Barrington Rd. next to Walgreens) 630-372-5378
Joliet 2903 Colorado Ave. (just off Route 30
next to Louis Joliet mall behind Wendy's) 815-436-5600
LaGrange 115 N. LaGrange Rd.
(a block north of Ogden across from McDonald's) 708-579-3690
Lake Zurich/Kildeer 20505 N. Rand Rd.
(behind Chili's across from Deer Park Center) 847-719-2300
Matteson 4533 W. Lincoln Hwy. (3 blocks E. of Cicero Ave.) 708-283-0556
McHenry 2200 N. Richmond Rd. Route 31 (across from Meijer) .. 815-363-2807
Mundelein 3010 W. Route 60 (Best Buy Center) 847-566-6724

Naperville East Chicago & Washington (Downtown Naperville) .. 630-428-5872
Naperville West 804 S. Route 59
(in front of Walmart, across from Fox Valley Mall) 630-718-0600
New Lenox/Mokena 2320 E. Lincoln Highway Route 30
(Lowe's & Target Center) 815-463-5601
Niles 9643 1/2 N. Milwaukee Ave.
(southeast corner of Milwaukee & Greenwood) 847-663-9340
Northlake 75 W. North Ave. #1200 (in front of Walmart) 708-562-0205
(Se Habla Español)
Oakbrook Terrace 17W200 22nd St. (across from Costco) 630-834-6830
Orland Park 149th & LaGrange Rd. (next to Trader Joe's) 708-349-4800
Oswego 1510 Douglas Rd. (Meijer Center
next to Buffalo Wild Wings at Ogden & Douglas) 630-554-1692
Plainfield 127th & Route 59 (in front of Target) 815-254-3377
Schaumburg East 687 E. Golf Rd. (Next to Portillo's) 847-310-8603
Schaumburg West 100 E. Golf Rd. (a block east of Roselle Rd.) 847-884-8215
Skokie 9719 Skokie Blvd. (Best Buy Center, across from Old Orchard) 847-679-9500
South Elgin 310 Randall Rd. (in front of Kohl's) 847-695-0503
Saint Charles 3823 E. Main Street (Rt. 64)
(Target & Portillo's Center) 630-584-4307
Tinley Park I-80 & Harlem Ave. (Super Target Center) 815-464-3366
Vernon Hills 375 N. Milwaukee Ave. (in front of Sam's Club) .. 847-883-8792
Wheaton 132 Danada Square West (next to Jewel) 630-653-2700
Kenosha, WI 6935 75th Street
(SW corner of Highway 50 & Green Bay Rd. Route 31) 262-694-3833

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deja view



Blago timeline

Former Gov. Rod Blagojevich was indicted Thursday on charges of trying to auction off President Obama's vacant U.S. Senate seat along with new corruption allegations that he tried to extort a congressman. Here's how it broke down. **AP**

2008

» **Dec. 9:** Federal agents arrest Blagojevich on corruption charges.

» **Dec. 30:** Blagojevich names former state Atty. Gen. Roland Burris to replace Obama in the Senate.

2009

» **Jan. 8:** A key House panel unanimously recommends impeachment for Blagojevich.

» **Jan. 9:** The Illinois House votes 114-1 to impeach.

» **Jan. 23:** Blagojevich holds a news conference to blast the upcoming Senate impeachment trial as unfair.

» **Jan. 26:** Blagojevich goes on a media blitz in New York to proclaim his innocence.

» **Jan. 29:** The Illinois Senate votes unanimously to remove Blagojevich from office; Lt. Gov. Patrick Quinn sworn in as governor.

» **April 2:** Blagojevich indicted with five co-defendants.



The Obamas and Queen Elizabeth II
GETTY IMAGES

The queen and iPod

An iPod. That's what President Obama gave Queen Elizabeth II this week as he traveled to London to meet with the leaders of nearly two dozen countries about the global financial crisis. The president also gave the monarch a rare songbook signed by American music composer Richard Rodgers (of Rodgers & Hammerstein).

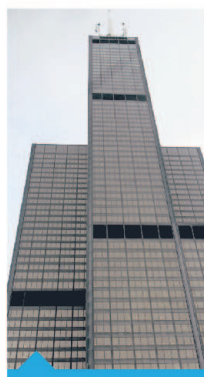
The gadget came packed with 40 Broadway show tunes, including several from "Camelot" and "My Fair Lady," according to reports. It also had photos and video of the queen's trips to Washington and Virginia and—oddly—mp3s of famous Obama speeches.

RedEye has some suggestions for some Chicago-centric gifts that might have made a better impression.



CTA weekend pass

The next time she's in Chicago, the Queen can visit, like, any museum she wants.



U-call-it

Naming rights for the Sears Tower. Oh, wait—we already gave those away.



A World Series trophy

She'll have to wait awhile if she wants the Cubs model.



Chicago-style hot dog

Nothing says classy quite like a pickle spear.

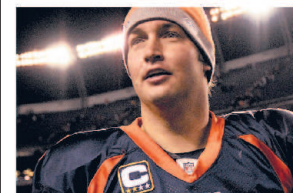


Lake water

Give it to her in a vial. More than anything, this would be just to creep her out. Vials are weird.

Heat index

RedEye takes the temperature of current events



Jay Cutler

Welcome to the Bear force.



Michelle Obama

She's a hugger.



IOC in Chicago

Psst, don't fall in a pothole.



'ER'

Nice while it lasted—15 years



Fake Web sites

April Fools. We get it.



Rob Blagojevich

Way to go, bro.



Some couples opt for diamond-free engagement rings. **BRIAN J. MOROWCZYNSKI FOR REDEYE**

A diamond isn't always forever

By Samantha Nelson

When Humboldt Park resident Nikki Wiskow got engaged, she got a big rock to wear. But it wasn't a diamond.

"I think diamonds in general are just completely overpriced for what they are," said her husband, Rob Wiskow, 29. "You can get a cubic zirconia, for a fraction of the price, yet only a trained jeweler would ever know the difference."

Diamonds might traditionally be a girl's best friend, but Nikki, 27, was happy to have an aquamarine engagement ring instead.

"I didn't want a ring that looked like every other engagement ring I've seen," she said. "Also, I wanted a big enough stone that it made a statement and would look good on my hand, but I didn't want to be walking around with a \$10,000 liability all the time, because that would make me nervous."

The Wiskows aren't alone. Several Chicago area jewelers say they're seeing an increase in couples looking for colored stones to show their commitment.

Rebecca Dohe, owner of Radiance Fine Jewelry in Bucktown, said she's been seeing many customers shy away from diamonds just to do something different or for political reasons.

The United Nations has cited trade in "conflict diamonds," gems that come from areas controlled by forces opposed to internationally recognized African governments, as a crucial factor in prolonging brutal wars throughout the continent.

"I've done everything from sapphires to peridot," Dohe said. "I think when it comes to an engagement ring it's more about personal taste. You can typically get a bigger stone if you do something other than diamonds."

Nikki said cost influenced her decision, but non-diamond rings can be just as pricey.

"They're sometimes more expensive than buying a diamond," said Koorosh Daneshgar, owner of Wedding Bands & Co. in the Loop. "Sometimes [customers] want to get something that will be conflict-free. [Sometimes] they appreciate getting something more artistic than just buying a rock." **SAMANTHA NELSON IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.**



Nikki and Rob Wiskow decided against the traditional diamond engagement ring in part because Nikki didn't want to wear a "\$10,000 liability."

BRIAN J. MOROWCZYNSKI FOR REDEYE

Put a ring on it

Engaged men sporting bands to symbolize their commitments

Columbia News Service

Always more apt to follow her heart than society's rules, Regina Engleka proposed to her boyfriend, Matt Hayman, last September with a ring she designed herself—a diamond set in a band of yellow and white gold studded with smaller diamonds.

"I wanted to give him some token of my love, and a ring just made sense," says Engleka, 31, a bartender in Somerset, Pa. "He said I obviously wanted to marry him if I was the one buying the ring."

Hayman, 37, is wearing his engagement ring on his right hand until the couple's wedding, in June, when it will be soldered to the wedding band and worn on his left hand.

Men in some European countries have worn engagement bands for years, but the trend is just starting to catch on in the U.S. More women want to mark their boyfriends as taken during the engagement period, and men want an equal piece of the prenuptial lovefest. As commitment ceremonies become more common and same-sex marriage is legalized in some states, gay men too must take part in the whole ring-exchange debate.

In Chicago, couples are purchasing the rings for extended engagements.

"I've sold a bunch in the last six months," said Kerry Gaynor, owner of Kerry Catherine Engagement Rings in Lincoln Park. "With the economy right now, people were planning the big bridezilla weddings and now people are pushing back their weddings and having two-year-plus engagements. When it's this long the girls are wanting him to look taken."

Some brides-to-be feel there is something sexist about a woman wearing a visible symbol of commitment for months before she takes



Most traditional wedding rings for men do not have stones. CHASE AGNELLO-DEAN/REDEYE

her vows while her fiancé appears single until the day wedding bands are exchanged.

"Women are buying men rings to take them off the market," says Heather Levine of theknot.com.

When Lisa Edd's boyfriend proposed to her in 2001 with an opal ring, she happily accepted—then took him shopping for an engagement ring of his own. The couple settled on a simple silver band, which he wore during the long-distance engagement while Edd was 1,000 miles away at graduate school.

"Sometimes guys need a reminder more than girls do," says Edd, 27, an editor in Boston. "Basically I gave him a ring to mark my territory before I left."

The jewelry industry is catching on. In January, the British jeweler H. Samuel released a \$130 male engagement ring, a titanium band embedded with a small diamond chip. In the U.S., couples tend to opt for custom rings or versatile bands that ultimately become wedding rings, and no major jeweler is

marketing a men's engagement ring as such.

"They are mostly like wedding bands, but with diamonds," said Koorosh Daneshgar, owner of Wedding Bands & Co. in the Loop. "One of the ones I made was similar to Elton John's wedding band."

It was a platinum ring with a diamond inside that could be seen only when the ring was taken off, Daneshgar said.

Some same-sex couples wear commitment rings on their left hands to signify equality with heterosexual couples, says Jolene Rae Harrington, creative director of herecomestheguide.com. But as far as traditions go, they're making them up as they go along.

Bill Long knew that he and his partner, Diego Velez, wouldn't want to wear more than one ring on the same finger, but he still wanted to get down on one knee and present a ring.

"I read about what a traditional straight couple would do and tried to find a compromise with what would make sense for us," says Long, 35, a tech-support engineer in Dallas. "I obviously didn't expect him to wear a big, gaudy engagement ring."

He ended up buying matching white-gold wedding bands and used one to propose to Velez, 37, in late 2007. Ever since, they have both worn the bands on their left ring fingers to symbolize their commitment because they cannot legally marry in Texas.

Jewelers have worked long and hard to convince consumers that bling can buy love. To be sure, De Beers created the distinctly American idea of throwing down two months' salary on a diamond ring in a 1947 campaign with the enduring words "A diamond is forever." Now men need two rings too?

The trend is not being driven by jewelers' marketing campaigns but by a cultural shift, experts say.

"Partnerships are beginning in the engagement process," Harrington says. "More and more, it's a two-way street." **REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR SAMANTHA NELSON PROVIDED REPORTING.**

EXPENSE REPORT

Average spending on weddings fell 28 percent in 2008, compared with 2007, to reach \$21,814, according to the Wall Street Journal. Take a look at these other facts and figures about wedding rings and getting hitched.

COMPILED BY ALICE TRUONG.

2

Number of months' salary a 1940s De Beers marketing campaign encouraged men to spend on engagement rings

\$3,200

Average cost of an engagement ring in 2006

\$2,900

Estimated average cost of an engagement ring in 2009

\$71,500

Cost of the Tiffany 2.5-carat Round Brilliant Three Stone Ring, the largest ring of that variety

\$130

Cost of male engagement ring released by British jeweler H. Samuel, a titanium band embedded with a small diamond chip

\$6.1 billion

Estimated amount spent on engagement rings in America in 2008

9.8%

Projected drop in average spending on engagement rings in 2009

84%

Percentage of brides who receive diamond engagement rings before marriage

12/25

Most popular date for popping the question, followed by Valentine's Day



“ I wanted to give him some token of my love, and a ring just made sense. He said I obviously wanted to marry him if I was the one buying the ring.”

REGINA ENGLEKA, who proposed to her boyfriend Matt Hayman with a diamond engagement ring (left)



the it list By Lisa Balde

What's hot this weekend

HEAR IT

Stories of female erotica

'Hood: Lincoln Park

Add a little spice to your weekend, ladies, during a special installment of readings from the 2nd Story performance clan. In collaboration with Goodman Theatre's "Taking the Stage: A Celebration of Women in Theater" (April 4-19), local storytellers Sara Kerastas, Deb Lewis, Margot Bordelon and Shannon Sullivan descend on **G Soiree** (1451 W. Fullerton Ave.) to read original works with an erotica edge. Includes refreshments and plenty of time to shop G Soiree's assortment of racy underthings and toys.

When: 11 p.m. Saturday

Cost: \$15

FLAUNT IT

Your best sock-wear

'Hood: East Village

Indie organizations Open Books and CHIRP, the Chicago Independent Radio Project, join forces for the second annual spring Sock Hop Saturday at **Empty Bottle** (1035 N. Western Ave. 773-276-3600). Kick off your shoes (literally—there's an optional shoe check) and stand to win prizes for fanciest socks and funkiest dance moves as local rockers Da So Do Da, Blue Ribbon Glee Club and Sock Hop curators Hidden Mitten rock the stage.

When: 10 p.m. Saturday

Cost: \$8

DRINK IT

Goose Island's Pub Heritage brews

'Hood: Lakeview, Sheffield

Beer geeks who frequent **Goose Island Brewpub** (1800 N. Clybourn Ave.) likely have sipped versions of this newly distributed beer collection in the past, but for us casual drinkers, now's the time to dig in. Call ahead to reserve your spot at **Sheffield's** (3258 N. Sheffield Ave. 773-281-4989) on Sunday to taste all three beers from Goose Island's Pub Heritage Collection, including Red Felt ale, Naughty Goose brown ale and Demolition, a Belgian-style golden ale brewed in honor of circa-1990 neighborhood construction.

Includes samples of each brew paired with appetizers, plus tastes of Goose standbys Night Stalker and Russian Imperial Stout and a visit from brewmaster Greg Hall. Can't make it to Sheffield's? Beers are now available at your friendly local liquor store.

When: 7 p.m.

Sunday

Cost: \$25



Sheffield's
FILE FOR METROMIX



The Shire Public House
FILE FOR METROMIX

TOAST IT

Paulina 'L' station reopening

'Hood: Lakeview

Congrats, Brown Line riders. You officially made it through the Paulina station revamp. After a year of dusty construction and rerouted morning commutes, you probably could use a drink. Celebrate the "L" stop's Friday reopening all weekend with these Lakeview businesses (trust us; they're just as excited as you about the overhaul). On Saturday, score \$3 Great Lakes Dortmunder Gold lagers at **The Shire Public House** (3328 N. Lincoln Ave.) and half-price pizzas before 8 p.m. at **Fizz** (3220 N. Lincoln Ave.). Pamper that hangover on Sunday with \$2 Brown Cows at **Frasca Pizzeria and Wine Bar** (3358 N. Paulina St.) and a half-price sandwich from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at **Finley Dunne's** (3458 N. Lincoln Ave.). Cheers to progress.

When: Saturday and Sunday

Cost: Prices vary

WATCH IT

The Final Four

'Hood: Ukrainian Village/ Wicker Park

That's right, sports fans. Just because the Cubs and Sox start their respective seasons on Monday, doesn't mean basketball is over yet. Thankfully, the folks at **The Fifty/50** (2047 W. Division St. 773-489-5050) know a little something about sports crossover. Bring in your NCAA bracket for your chance to win such prizes as tickets to the Crosstown Classic and a Derek Lee jersey. While you're watching the Final Four on 16 screens, sip \$6 Dick Vitale-ity cocktails (made with orange juice, Jose Cuervo Gold and Grand Marnier) and nosh on \$10 shrimp cocktails.

When: Saturday and Sunday

Cost: No cover

LISA BALDE IS THE METROMIX PRINT EDITOR.

LBALDE@TRIBUNE.COM

the juice

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WAIT:
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Branching out

By M. Kathleen Pratt

Thesene: If Little Branch Cafe was a residential property, realtors might shudder. The one-and-a-half-year-old counter-service cafe violates all three rules for successful sales: location, location and location. Tucked away on the ground floor of a South Loop condo building on a street that sees scant foot traffic, it's almost impossible to stumble upon. If you seek it out—which you should—be prepared to hunt for parking.

But inconvenience has an upside. If Little Branch was located on a high-traffic street, we'd predict Bongo Room-esque popularity or at least Toast- or Orange-like brunch crowds. As it is, weekend brunch, which launched in November, draws a steady but not overwhelming stream of young couples, families and singletons, mostly from the neighborhood. And that's more or less what the cafe's owners, sisters Soo and Sang Choi and partner Kevin Heisner, had

in mind when they opened the place.

Though the space is relatively compact, Little Branch manages an airy, modern vibe. A sleek wood-paneled coffee bar set with sturdy tree-trunk stools designed by Soo, a fashion designer, and Heisner, known for his design work at night-spots such as Bar DeVile and Empire Liquors, runs the length of the cafe, while floor-to-ceiling windows keep things bright and open.

The cuisine: Hold off those lunch plans, because this isn't your typical coffeehouse fare. Sure, you could go Starbucks-style with a scone and a latte. But with entrees that hold their own against just about any table-service brunch spot in town, why would you? Besides, Little Branch just received a liquor license, and you're going to need more than a scone to stand up to that bloody mary.

The easiest path to syrupy satisfaction is the mascarpone-stuffed French toast (\$7.50, left), two pieces of brioche toast with a layer of mascarpone spread between them—sort of a French toast sandwich—luxuriating in vanilla creme anglais and sprinkled with candied pecans and fresh berries.

Little Branch offers more than a half dozen panini on the lunch menu, and the breakfast frita-



Little Branch Cafe
BARRY BRECHSEN FOR METROMIX

ta sandwich (\$7.50) is a testament to the kitchen's panini prowess. Our bacon and tomato frittata, layered with melted cheddar, was neatly pressed between two slices of steaming ciabatta spread with roasted red pepper aioli.

Almost everything is made from scratch daily, so offerings change frequently. The huge slices of quiche (\$5.75), for example, might include chicken sausage, roasted red peppers, caramelized onions and parmesan one day, and bacon, tomatoes and gruyere the next. It's all enough to make you want to move to the South Loop just to be that much closer when something new comes out of the oven. If that's too extreme, well, it's at least worth a trip out of your way.

M. KATHLEEN PRATT IS THE METROMIX DINING PRODUCER.
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¹ Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Dept. of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook, 08-09.

Metromix's top weekend shows

THE TING TINGS

Wear something shiny. With *Hottub*. 7:30 p.m. Sun. Sold out. Metro, 3730 N. Clark St. 773-549-0203.

THE ROSEBUDS

Pop that might make you bummed—or make you dance. With *Megafaun*, *Animal City*. 9:30 p.m. Sat. \$10-\$12. Beat Kitchen, 2100 W. Belmont Ave. housecallent.com

PARACHUTE

Icelandic pop to cool off your weekend. With *JP*, *Fareweel Continental*, *Thrillage*. 6 p.m. Sun. \$10-\$12. Reggie's Rock Club, 2109 S. State St. 312-949-0120.

ILLINOIS

They're actually from Pennsylvania, but we'll let it slide. With *Brighton, MA*, *Light Pollution*. 9:30 p.m. Sat. \$10. Subterranean, 2011 W. North Ave. housecallent.com

ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

The sort of youthful pop punk you may not want to like, but do anyway. With *School Boy Humor*, *Jet Lag Gemini*, *Kieran McMullan*, *The High Life*. 5 p.m. Sat. \$10-\$12. Reggie's Rock Club, 2109 S. State St. 312-949-0120.

TICKETBOOTH



Jenny Lewis

On sale 10 a.m. Saturday

The Crystal Method, Monday, June 8 (\$24-\$26.50, 17+) at House of Blues.

Kid Rock, Lynyrd Skynyrd, Sunday, July 5 (\$27-\$72, all ages) at Marcus Amphitheater, Milwaukee.

Jenny Lewis, Friday, June 5 (\$22, all ages) at Park West.

The Prodigy, Saturday, May 23 (\$35, all ages) at Congress Theater.

George Strait, Blake Shelton, Julianne Hough, Saturday, May 23 (\$39.25-\$79.25, all ages) at First Midwest Bank Amphitheatre.

Third Eye Blind, Friday, May 29 (\$31, all ages) at Riviera Theatre.

On sale noon Saturday

King's X, Saturday, June 27 (\$20, 21+) at Double Door.

Metric, Sunday, June 14 (\$20, all ages) at Metro.

Phish, Tuesday, Aug. 11 (\$49.50, all ages) at Toyota Park.

On sale 10 a.m. Monday

U2, Snow Patrol, Sunday, Sept. 13 (\$32-\$252, all ages) at Soldier Field.

On sale noon Monday


TBS "Just for Laughs" Festival featuring Ellen DeGeneres, Jimmy Fallon, George Lopez, Bill Engvall, more, Wednesday, June 17, Thursday, June 18, Friday, June 19, Saturday, June 20, Sunday, June 21 (Prices vary, all ages or 18+) at various locations.

On sale now

Art Brut, Monday, June 8 (\$15, all ages), Tuesday, June 9, Wednesday, June 10, Thursday, June 11, Friday, June 12 (\$15, 18+; five-day passes \$50) at Schubas.


Incubus, The Duke Spirit, Tuesday, July 21 (\$45, all ages) at Northerly Island's Charter One Pavilion.

O.A.R., Thursday, June 18 with **Robert Randolph and the Family Band**, Friday, June 19 with **the Wailers** (\$38.50, all ages) at Northerly Island's Charter One Pavilion.




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pop

English King Henry VIII must have come up with the saying, "Out with the old, in with the new."

As Season 3 of Showtime's lusty costume drama "The Tudors" begins, Henry (Jonathan Rhys Meyers) has separated Wife No. 2, Anne Boleyn, from her head. He's watched Wife No. 1, Catherine of Aragon, die of a broken heart.

Now he's ready for Wife No. 3, Jane Seymour (Annabelle Wallis), who despite eventually bearing him a son can't keep this horny guy from straying.

But Henry has more on his mind than sex. Jane wants him to reconcile with his daughters, Mary (Sarah Bolger) and the child Elizabeth. (Yes, that Elizabeth. Seeing her makes me believe this series could go on indefinitely.)

Henry also faces a major new threat to his reign in the army known as the Pilgrims of Grace. "The Tudors" gets blasted for not being historically accurate, but when it comes to the politics of Henry's reign, it stays close to fact. These storylines are just as enthralling as those with naked ladies-in-waiting. (Don't worry, there still are plenty of those scenes.)

The uprising dominates the first four episodes, giving one of my favorite actors the meaty material he's deserved for two seasons. Henry Cavill, who plays Henry's BFF Charles Brandon, is this season's standout. His Brandon is tasked by Thomas Cromwell (James Frain), Henry's leading adviser and Brandon's enemy, to kill hundreds of innocents as payoff for the uprising. It's too much for Brandon, secretly Catholic, to bear.

With all this drama on Henry's plate, it's little wonder he practically ignores that open wound on his leg. Anyone who knows Henry's real story knows what this foreshadows.

It's time for the producers to cast the adult Elizabeth role. Out with the old, in with the new. **CURT WAGNER, REDEYE**

The Tudors

8 p.m. Sunday,
Showtime



History is sexy

Jane Seymour
(Annabelle Wallis)
and Henry VIII
(Jonathan Rhys Meyers)
in "The Tudors"
SHOWTIME

LOVE IT

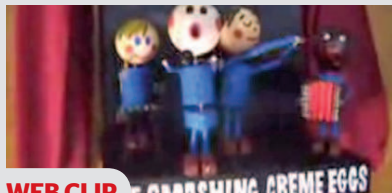


DVD Slumdog Millionaire

In "Slumdog," director Danny Boyle's storytelling abilities, heart

and outside point of view come together in a wonderfully expressive and entertaining way. As his camera takes the viewer into the slums of Mumbai with its ramshackle houses and teeming humanity, it would seem odd to think this film is at all uplifting, but it is. The director never condescends to the characters.

ROB LOWMAN, L.A. DAILY NEWS



WEB CLIP Cream that egg

<http://tr.im/icVR>

What do you get when you combine 30 sticks of hot glue, 480 pins and what looks to be an entire craft supply store's worth of paper tubes and marbles? You get the world's coolest Cadbury egg smashing machine. Part of the candy maker's "Unleash The Goo" competition, the video features a Rube Goldberg-type contraption that takes 2 minutes and 35 seconds to smash a chocolate egg. It's well worth your time. **JIM WALSH, REDEYE**

LIKE IT

SONG Home Sweet Home

Carrie Underwood



I dig Motley Crue. I also like Carrie Underwood, especially as a cover artist, and especially when she gets all dirrry and hair-metallic. So yes, this earnest cover of the Crue ballad was a fine idea, especially as a "farewell theme" for contestants dropped from "American Idol." Plus proceeds go to charity. The song is available on iTunes.

SEAN DALY, ST. PETERSBURG TIMES

LOATHE IT



DVD Seven Pounds

"Seven Pounds," starring Will Smith, is about a man

who — after being involved in a tragedy that killed seven people — sets out to change seven people's lives. To be kind, the film is a puzzle, to be less so would be to say it's a mess.

ROB LOWMAN, L.A. DAILY NEWS

TV In Treatment

8 p.m. Sunday, HBO

Golden Globe winner Gabriel Byrne returns as Dr. Paul Weston, a psychotherapist who has demons of his own. Weston treats a handful of clients, then hits the couch himself with his therapist, Dr. Gina Toll (Dianne Wiest). The drama is well-acted, and I suppose well-written. But it's boring! Talk, talk, talk. I have enough issues of my own.

CURT WAGNER, REDEYE

SALES CHECK

THE WEEKEND'S BEST
SALES AND EVENTS

Bess & Loie

1015 W. Lake St.; 312-226-2247

Erin Gallagher

1017 W. Lake St.; 312-492-7548

The stores host a bridal event with Champagne, pastries and 20 percent off merchandise from an array of wedding-affiliated vendors Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Hejfina

1529 N. Milwaukee Ave.

773-772-0002

hejfina.com

The store hosts a Vena Cava trunk show with dresses, tops and more from its spring-summer collection Saturday from 4 to 7 p.m. Attendees receive 15 percent off Vena Cava merchandise and complimentary refreshments.

15%
OFF

Dominican University

7900 W. Division St., River Forest

708-366-2490

The university hosts its annual student fashion show with more than 150 original student-designed garments Saturday at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m., in the Lund Auditorium. Tickets are \$12.

Macy's

111 N. State St.

312-781-4884

The store's annual Flower Show officially begins Sunday (with a soft opening Saturday). Visit macys.com/events for a schedule of events.

Hop Around the Shops

Candyality (3425 N. Southport Ave.; 773-472-7800, candyality.com), Ciao Bella (3829 N. Southport Ave.; 773-388-2201, ciaobellachicago.com), Dog-a-holics (3608 N. Southport Ave.; 773-857-7600, dog-a-holics.com), Julius Meini (3601 N. Southport Ave.; 773-868-1857), and M2 Boutique (3527 N. Southport Ave.; 773-248-9866, mboutiquechicago.com) participate in Hop Around the Shops to raise awareness about the Chicago Canine Rescue Foundation and its effort to find homes for dogs. The event is Sunday from noon to 3 p.m., on Southport Avenue from Roscoe Avenue to Byron Street. Each shop offers discounts.

**Welcome home!**

Toss this Chiasso mat in front of your door as a good choice for spring and summer. \$38 at Chiasso, 2112 N. Clybourn Ave.

**Who framed you?**

Give your loved ones (and pets!) the special treatment by placing their snapshots in these fun frames from All She Wrote. \$27 each at All She Wrote, 825 W. Armitage Ave.

**Dots a lot**

J. Crew's retro-inspired swimsuit comes in five juicy colors to keep things interesting. \$76 at jcrew.com

dote on DOTS

Polka dots are one pattern that will always remain chic. Whether dotting your wardrobe or your home, the simple dots can be both sweet and stylish. Look for bright colors or oversize dots to keep things interesting.

hot stuff

JOANNA GUSTAFSON IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.

Bowl them over

Think polka dots are too cute? Try this bowl from Material Possessions for a much more subtle look. \$16 at Material Possessions, 704 N. Wabash Ave.

**Style in Spades**

Kate Spade's bangles are adorned with oversize geometric dots. Wear several for a bold look. \$95 at Bloomingdale's

**Simple style**

These comfy sneaks by Simple are perfect for running weekend errands, but they have a surprising peep toe. \$55 at piperlime.com

**Office space**

How much better would the work day be if you had PB Teen's polka dotted chair to type away in? \$189 at pbteen.com

What a mug

Make the mornings easier to bear with these cheerful Crate & Barrel mugs. \$4.95 each at Crate & Barrel



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RedEye special contributor Sarah Coffey blogs for **apartmenttherapy.com**. Visit the site for more tips and tricks about apartment living in Chicago.

Sleepin' it off

Situation: My place is too small for a guest room

Solution: Use double-duty furniture to create extra sleeping space

When your apartment or condo is on the small side, you may feel like you don't have enough room for your own things, let alone somebody else's. It can be hard to find extra space for overnight guests (assuming they're not going to share your comfy bed), but there are ways to set up your out-of-town friends and family in style without cramping your own.

The days of bulky, uncomfortable sleeper sofas, ugly futons and rigid army cots have thankfully passed. Today you can find cozy beds that fold up into an armchair or look cool enough to pass for a space-age sofa. Sleeper ottomans are another option. These compact twin beds collapse into a large footstool, and many of the newer models provide a decent night's sleep.

If you're looking for a full-sized couch that doubles as a bed, a streamlined daybed can look great in a contemporary home. Modern daybeds lack the visual bulk or clunky mechanisms of a traditional sleeper sofa, but they're not always comfortable. If you're going to use your daybed as a couch, search for a frame with back support and deep bolster pillows. Before you buy, test it in the store and make sure it's supportive enough to lounge on while you watch TV or read a book.

To add some stylish extra sleeping space to your home, here are a few options:

Ottoman Sleeper

Starting at \$499

BoConcept makes a slipcovered ottoman with a foam mattress that flips up and out into a twin bed. Slipcovers can be ordered in a variety of fabrics and patterns to match your decor. The store also sells a modern sofa with a hinged back that flips down into a double bed. BoConcept, 1901 N. Clybourn Ave., 773-388-290, **boconcept.com**, Sleeper Sofa, \$949

1



2



3



Case Study Daybed

\$1,698

Design Within Reach sells a modern Case Study Daybed with bolsters that can be easily removed for conversion to a twin, while the Twilight Sleep Sofa has the flexibility to transform from a daybed into a queen or two separate twin beds. Design Within Reach, **designwithinreach.com**, Twilight Sleep Sofa, \$1,680-\$1,880



Troy Twin Sleeper

\$999

Crate and Barrel sells several roomy armchair sleepers that fold out into twin beds. My favorite is the least bulky of the bunch, the Troy Twin Sleeper, which is available in a range of neutral fabrics, Crate & Barrel, **crateandbarrel.com**



The martini— UNDRESSED

Martinez a sweeter version of the Manhattan

The Washington Post

"The martini evolves," says cocktail historian David Wondrich. "It has evolved since it was born." Sadly, it has become stunted and mutated in recent decades. Perhaps it's best to go back to the beginning and start the evolution all over again.

Some crazy theories suggest that this was the original martini, but it was more probably a variation. In reality, all martinis are a variation on the Manhattan.

Regardless, the Martinez is a very tasty drink, though certainly for a sweeter tooth.

Be sure to use Old Tom Gin, a sweetened gin that has undergone a recent revival after a century of obscurity.

It is available for purchase online. Adapted from a recipe printed on bottles of Hayman's Old Tom Gin.

Martinez

1 serving

Ingredients

- » Ice
- » 1 ½ ounces Old Tom Gin
- » 1 ½ ounces sweet vermouth
- » 1 teaspoon maraschino liqueur
- » 2 dashes orange or aromatic bitters
- » 1 twist of lemon or orange peel, for garnish

Directions

Fill a mixing glass halfway full with ice. Add the gin, vermouth, maraschino liqueur and bitters. Stir vigorously for at least 30 seconds, then strain into a cocktail (martini) glass. Garnish with the lemon or orange peel twist.



TRIBUNE FILE

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The most expensive bra is the Red Hot Fantasy Bra that is made by Victoria's Secret. It is worth \$15 million, and has more than 1,300 precious stones. The bra is delivered in a secured truck by security guards.

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Spacious 2br rehab, w/new windows, kit, ba, sun porch & hw flrs. 4500N/3100W. \$1050 incl ht. 773-478-1856

East Rogers Park 2BR \$900/mo tenants pay elec 3 blks from L manager & sec. on site 773-764-6475

Foster & California 3br/1ba parking incl, 2821 W. Farragut. 773-418-9055

Gold Coast Studio \$660 w/ frplc. Heat/gas incl. Lndry Wlk to Mich Av 312-943-8406

Jefferson Park Central Park/ Irving Park, 1BR totally remodifd, hw flr, \$650. Avail now. 847-912-0008

Kimball/Bryn Mawr Area Lrg Sunny 3br Comp remod Kitch/BA, D/W, Hdwd flrs, 2 wlk in clsts. Lndry in bldg. Ht incl, wired for high spd int & cbl. \$1250/mo 773-583-2323.

Lake View/Edgewater @ park/bch, 182btrs, balc, \$995/\$1495. Bonus! Free Prkg! You're handy? Lower rent! ★★773-271-7300★★★

Lakeview great loc., 2br 1ba, Indry in apt, prkg in rear. \$1100. 847-266-0103.

Lincoln Park Heart of Southport. 2500 sf. 3 large Br, 2 Ba, huge kitchen, W/D, D/W, hwd flrs, back deck, near el. \$1,900/mo. Avail 5/1/09. 773-525-2295.

Lincoln Pk-Oz Park 3BR Dlx rehab, ½ blk to tennis/jogging. HW flrs, ceramic tile bth w/sauna, CAC/hl, lrg gourmt kit, DW, cooking blk, island, DR, Indry, small pets ok. Prkg avail. \$1600 312-944-1681

Logan Square 2BR. Hdwd flrs, Ht incl. Clean. Painted. 3720 W. McLean \$800 815-519-9688 or 800-290-6111

Logan Sq. Rehab 2.5br/2ba deck, laun, prkg/gar, wlk to trn, \$975+utls 847-361-9292

Logan Sqr. 3100 W. Fullerton 2Br w/heat, hdwd flrs, nr Blue line. \$850. 847-312-1087

Logan Square No Deposit, Free Utilities. Small & Lrg Studio \$545& Up. 773-489-9226

Marina City 300 N. State Studio, 50th flr. Avail. May 1. \$1,000/mo. 312-560-5122

North Park Newly remod. 3BR, 2ba. LR, DR, kit. Exc loc. No pets. \$1275 847-329-9788

North Park 5220 N. Christina 2nd flr. 2BR, 1BA. Hardwd floors. \$900. 773-368-3900

Old Irving Park Cute, clean 1BR. Appls, W/D, C/A & ht. Nr "L" & Metra. \$725. No pets. 773-486-0212.

Old Irving Pk Calif/Addison 1Br, LR, new bthrm w/jacuzzi, ht incl. \$900. 773.754.8885

Old Irving Park 6.5Rms, 3Br, HW flrs, high ceilings, brick 2ft \$1150/mo 847-924-5136



Peterson Woods 5724 N. Mozart, spacious, 5 rms, 2BR, formal din rm, 2 full marble tile baths, beau. mod kit, with grnt counter tops/ss appls, in unit w/d, CA, w/ frpl and balc. \$1195 Ron 847-414-3060

Ravenswood East 4229 172 N. Paulina 3.5 rms, 1br, heated Oak flrs, strg/laundry, bsmt, EZ street parking. May 1st. \$890. No Pets. 773-975-9342

Ravenswood Manor 1BR, spac, secure, 1st flr in 2ft, HW flrs \$950 htd 773-588-7976

Rogers Park Sunny, lrg studio & 1BR w/separate lrg & DR, huge walk-in closet. Close to lake & trans. \$595 & \$695. Also 2Br Call 773-274-2651

Rogers Park (East) Studios \$580; 1BR \$680. Tenant pays elec. 3blks to lake & "L". Mgr/ sec on site. 773-948-1429

Rogers Park (East) Studios \$550, 1BR \$650. Tenant pays elec. 1blk to lake & "L". Mgr/ sec on site 773-714-6979

Rogers Pk Lrg spac 3br/2ba, hwd flrs, newly remod, Indry facit on prems, ht incl, quiet nghbrhd. 773-262-2156

Rogers Park very nice 1br, garden apt for rent, \$600/ mo, 773-744-9722

ROSCOE VILLAGE 2Br 1Ba \$1300+util. C/A, crpt, deck, skyts Immed 773-425-0219

Roseland Spac 2BR Appls. Porch. Side dr. \$850 + sec. Sec 8 welc. 708-257-9306

Uptown Studios Starting at \$550/mo. Utills incld. 24 hr sec. Lndry. Sect 8 & sr citizens welcome. 773-561-2100

Uptown Studios Starting at \$550/mo. Utills incl. 24 hr sec. Lndry in bldg. Sect 8 & sr citizens welc. 773-293-4602

W. Rogers Pk Newly remod Jumbo 3Br, 2Ba, 1st flr, prkg incl, avail now. 773.934.6125



West Ravenswood
1br, new rehab w/ mod kit and ba, hw flrs, new windows, cls to brown line, \$825 ht incl, 773-478-1856

West Rogers Park 2br remodded garden apt. Washer/Dryer in unit. Parking avail. \$875. 847-877-8201

WESTERN / FARWELL lrg 2Br in ct yrd bldg, mod kit & cer Ba, new decor, HW flr, laund & strg, prking avail MUST SEE! \$850, utls incld 847-494-3637

UNFURNISHED APT. CITY NORTHWEST

5741 W. Irving Park Newly remod 1br, heat/applncs incl. \$650. 773-736-8341

Albany Park - East
1BR, new rehab w/Mod kit and BA, new windows and HW Flrs, cls to Brownline, \$825 incl ht. 773-478-1856

AVONDALE 3br near public transp, no pets. \$1200 heated. Oscar 847-873-3778

Belmont / Kimball 1Br, comp new gut rehab, CA, ht, stove, frig, microwave, DW, W/D \$750+utls www.Apt-For-Rent.com 773-220-0310

Belmont & Harlem Spac. 1br, ht, laun facility and prkg incld. 847-331-7030

BELMONT CRAGIN area, 7 sunny rms, heat not incl. \$1000. no pets. 773-307-9199

Cicero / Belmont renov Studio, 2Rms, ht, hot watr & cking gas incl \$550 847-204-4629

Cumberland-Higgins Lrg 1BR. Compl remod. Pvt prkg. All appls. All utls incld except elec. No pets. MUST SEE. IMMAC. Near Metra/shops. 847-845-6100

Diversey/Pulaski Beaut 2BR Freshly painted, renov. W/D. \$800+ util. 847-279-8490

Edison Pk 6851 N. North-west Hwy 2br/1ba condo, \$1,000/mo 847-845-8184

Edison Park 2br, quality 3 flat, bright & clean, no pets, \$/1, \$960 ★773-631-7676

Elston / Pulaski 1&2Br, 3rd flr. Heat/cooking gas incl. \$735-\$835 773-329-1353

Harlem/Lawrence 3rm, 1br, ht, new kit, oak flrs \$725 River Grove, 3rm, 1br, ht, \$700 847-825-1442

Higgins / Oriole May 1st, very spacious 2br apt, 8 closets, 2nd flr, ht incl, \$1,100 no pets! 773-775-8641

Humboldt Park 1br & 3br, remodifd, Sec. 8 welc. Utilities included. \$650-\$1300. 773-616-1667 anytime

North Lawndale 3br 1ba, \$950/mo + utls + 1½mo sec. 708-250-2267

In some parts of England, rum is used to wash a baby's head for good luck.



Jefferson Park 2br garden apt., applncs/heat incl. \$800. Crdt ✓. 773-631-5413.

Lawrence/Pulaski clean 1br, \$695, ht and ac, prkg avil, 847-381-6049

Norwood Pk Harlem/NW Hwy Spac 1&2BR, din rm, oak flrs, pets ok. Ht/ac/prkg. \$850 & \$965. 847.338.8983.

NW Hwy/ Devon/ Harlem 5Room, 2Bedroom, garage avail, 1st flr, \$1000 773-594-9902 / 708-867-6297

Rogers Park 2BR, 1BA \$900 incl. heat/hot water. 773-583-2366 773-504-2682

Roscoe/Nagle Sunny 1Br, hw flrs, heat incld, no pets, \$695. Dan 773-370-2509.

Ukrainian Village/W. Wick- er Park Vintage Sunny 3br, 2br, 10 mins to dwtwnr Chi, \$1090 5/1, 773-278-7155

UNFURNISHED APT. CITY WEST

410-414 S. Hamlin 3br apts avail, amenities incld w/d, indiv c-ht/air. \$800. Pls contact Nick for showing 773-816-7196 or for add'l info contact MLG 773-624-4901

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AUSTIN Spac. 7Rm 3BR heat incld. Nr transp, 2nd flr. Sec 8 Welc. Refs req. 773-637-8511

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Garfield Park gorgeous new const. 3Br, 2Ba, HW flrs, W/D Sec 8 Wel 312-498-8473

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North Lawndale 3br 1ba, \$950/mo + utls + 1½mo sec. 708-250-2267

UNFURNISHED APT. CITY SOUTHWEST

Midway 3Br, 1.5Ba, DR, LR, 2nd flr, \$900+ util. + sec. No pets. 773-581-5563

UNFURNISHED APT. CITY SOUTH

5608 S. Wabash 2br, \$700 3br, \$900. Ht & appls incl. Sec. 8 welc. 773-418-0441

6824 S. Perry 7205 S. Yale, 2 and 3BR htd. Appls incld. \$700-\$820/mo 773-653-3800

7600 Southshore Drive Studio \$510, Heat, ckg gas & appls incl 773-501-8521

8550 S. Maryland 2br, LR, kit & ba. \$



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Pullman 11133 S. Vernon 2br 1ba ht incl renov, 1st flr \$745. Ben ■ 312.208.5231

S. Side 6602 S. Troy 5854 S. Fairfield, 1 & 2 br frm \$500-\$675. Also storefront for rent. 630-863-4653

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South Shore 1½ block from Lake, everything new, hwdw flrs, cherry cabinets, black appls, ceramic kitchen & BA. Indry on site. 1BR from \$725. Call Lee 773-592-4074

South Side Everything NEW 3BR 1BA. Nr transp. Heated \$750/Sec. reqd 773-288-5233

Western & Ogden 2br, 2ba, brand new unit, CAC/Ht, high ceil, w/ appls, in unit w/d, cbl int rdy, \$1560 312-296-6829

WOODLAWN Spac 1BR garden apt. hi ceilings \$625 1019 E 62nd St. No pets. Mike 773-288-5545



UNFURNISHED APT. SUBURBS

Addison New Tenant Special 1BR \$660/mo. +\$400. Dep. ht, water incl. Hwdw flr, cbl ready. 630-530-0474



Alsip 1br, 2nd flr, brand new kit and hw flrs 123rd and Cicero & I-294, balc, \$695+cred ✓ 708-235-0011

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Bensenville Updtd 1br Lndry, Cls to xway. Av now \$710. 630.643.3313 LV MSG

Calumet City 1BR, 1ba. LR, DR, kit. Pvt ½ bsmt. Hwdw. Appls. \$650 773-846-8906

Des Plaines 2br/1ba cottage w/1c gar, frpl, w/d incl. \$1,050. 847-322-2206.

Des Plaines huge updt 1br, in 4flat, ht/prk/ac, dw, Indry, nr trn \$775 847-338-8388

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(Restrictions Apply)
1BR from \$770, 2BR from \$890, 3BR from \$1100
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RIVER GRV \$674 W. Grand Spacious 1 & 2BR pets ok Ht, AC \$750- \$915 847-338-8983

Skokie 1Br, appls & ht incl, HW flrs, conv shop/trans, \$760 & \$770 847-675-2029

Skokie 3br 1.5ba, full bsmt, C/A & ht, 1 prk spt, hwdw flrs, w/d. \$1550. 773-443-7803

Skokie deluxe 3br, 1ba, dwtwn, eat in kit, lrg sept dn & lvg rm, ht incl, no smkg \$1195 224.616.7575

WESTMONT 2BR, AC, Balc. Sec. Syst. Nr Metra & Xway From \$830. 630-596-3292



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Barrington Hills 3br/2ba newly remod cntry estate guest house. \$2100/mo. Call Cathy, 847-809-4829

Bolingbrook Spac 4br/2.5ba 2c gar, bsmt, fncd yard, appls April 1. \$1750. 630-546-0897

Bolingbrook 5BR, 2 full ba. LR. Fam rm. Frplc. 2 c gar. Avl now \$1700 630-910-5378

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Gilberts 2Br, 2.5 ba. Fam rm. Kit w/eat-in area. Bsmt. 2.5 c gar. \$1295 847-858-4000

Glen Ellyn Townhome Spacious 2Br, 1.5Ba. Appls incl, bsmt, nr shopping & X-way \$950. 630-889-9695

Gurnee 2Br, 2.5Ba. 1c gar, w/d, cac, nr shopp/hwy. \$1200/mo 847-414-5842

Harvey 3br 1.5ba, CAC, fncd yrd, newly remod. \$1000 + sec. Sec 8 wel. 708-927-9768

Libertyville Heritage area 3BR 2BA 2C gar, completely remodeled, S appls, W/D, \$2100/mo 847-331-4914

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Lincolnshire New constr 5br/5ba custom hm loc on wded lot, Stevenson Hi, no pets \$3,800 847-438-2826

Mundelein 3BR FR w/frpl, eat-in kit, 2.5c gar \$1100. Sec 8 ok. 847-949-7500



Naperville 3br, 2ba, ranch, 2c gar, bsmt, yrd, appls, dist. 203, \$1,395, 630-450-5784



Naperville 4br, 2.5ba, 2stry, A/C, W/D, appls, frpl, 204 schl dis, \$1695, 630-399-8912

Naperville 3Br, 1.5Ba eat in kit, LR, DR, 2car att gar, fncd yard. Dist 203. Nr xways/Metra. \$1395. 630-355-8823

Palatine 2br, 2.5ba, attchd gar, all appls, updt, no pets. \$1140. 224.795.9772

Plainfield Beautiful 2br w/loft, 2 ½ba, 1c, on golf course. All appls, fresh paint, \$1195. 708-717-2398

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University Pk 5BR, 3BA, newly remodeled. \$1900. 708-478-0523/708-715-3033

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Wilmette beaut 3br, 2ba, fin fm rm, 2.5c gar, AC, on cul-de-sac, New Trir, Schls, \$2250 847-677-7797

Wood Dale Maple & Foster newly remod 4Br 2BA, Avl now \$1500. 847-302-0777

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University Pk 5BR, 3BA, newly remodeled. \$1900. 708-478-0523/708-715-3033

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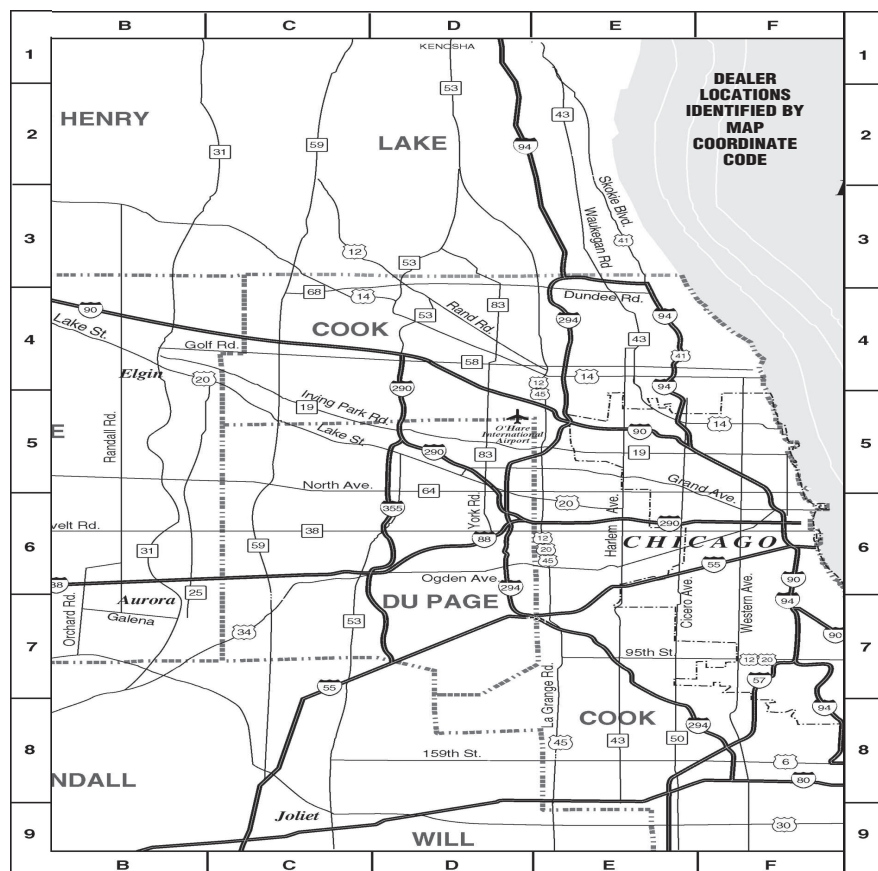
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Kickin' it with Kanye

Retailers expecting rush for rapper's Nike Air Yeezy

By **Kent Green**
FOR REDEYE

When a shoe gets thrown, it's a sign of disrespect.

When a shoe drops, however, it's a massive fashion moment.

At least that's the case with the Nike Air Yeezy, the limited-edition sneaker designed by Kanye West. The first colorway comes out Saturday, and the shoe has generated considerable buzz inside and outside the sneaker collector community.

It'll be available only at select locations, and in Chicago those stores are expecting a rush.

“

Love him or hate him, Kanye is definitely an influence across genres.”

KRABBY RANGOON
manager of Wicker Park's Saint Alfred

No previous shoe release has garnered the anticipation surrounding the Air Yeezy, according to Krabieh Ranopolout (a.k.a. Krabby Rangoon), manager of Saint Alfred, 1531 N. Milwaukee.

The Wicker Park store planned a special release event beginning at 12:01 a.m. Saturday.

Why the anticipation? Rangoon thought the desire could be because it's a milestone of sorts for hip-hop: While rappers have had shoes before, none has been with a brand so established as Nike. West's seemingly limitless gifts for self-promotion

and aesthetic influence—remember the outbreak of Venetian-blind sunglasses?—have no doubt helped.

“Love him or hate him, Kanye is definitely an influence across genres,” Rangoon said. “He has the ability to affect a lot of things, whether it be fashion, music or even vocabulary.”

To get your Yeezys on, you'll have to pay a sticker price of \$215, possibly more if a store decides to mark them up. But that price isn't putting people off.

On eBay, some pairs are selling for more than \$500. And Ben Miller, a sales associate at Self-Conscious, 1021 W. Lake, said the shop has been getting offers from people offering to pay double if the store would hold a size. Miller said the store is releasing the shoe at 11 a.m. Saturday, and people will have to show up and take their chances.

That people would make these offers and be willing to wait in line may seem strange, especially in a lousy economy, but Miller said that like other big collector cultures, sneakers have a certain draw.

“With sneakers, it's never really affected—maybe like the sneakers at the mall, maybe that might be hit by the economy,” he said. “But at boutiques and with high-end shoes, it's always going to sell.”

KENT GREEN IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.



At least one publisher of comic books is planning on raising its prices—which could be a tough sell in this economy. “I saw the other day there were going to be \$4 comics,” says artist Dave Gibbons, who is best known for his work on the “Watchmen” series. “That is a lot of money for a person who buys 10 titles a week.” **TRIBUNE FILE**

Latest villain? The economy

Comic book sales could take a beating in recession

MCT

Superman and Spider-Man have not shown any signs of weakness—yet. But they are facing one of the biggest foes in their comic books' histories: a bad economy.

“We are seeing a little bit of a backlash to the bad economy,” says Dave Allread, owner of Heroes Comics in Fresno, Calif. “We will know a little better in a few months whether a person who was buying eight to 10 comics each week drops down to five or six.”

Roy Gallagher, owner of Visalia, Calif.'s Collectors Choice, has seen a small drop as sales are down about 4 percent to 5 percent from a year ago.

One reason for concern is the rising price of comic books. The average price of a comic book is \$2.99. But Marvel Comics, the publishing company behind such costumed comic characters as Spider-Man, X-Men and Iron Man, will raise the price of six of its monthly titles to \$3.99.

No such price increases have been announced at DC

Comics for its main line of comic books, such as those featuring Superman, Batman or Wonder Woman.

Artist Dave Gibbons has seen the comic book world change dramatically during his 35 years in the business. The British artist, who has worked as an illustrator on comic books from “Green Lantern” to “Captain America Lives Again,” is best known for his work for the much-heralded “Watchmen” series.

During an interview to talk about the film version of the comic book series that arrived in theaters this week, Gibbons talked about what he sees as the future for comic books.

“I saw the other day there were going to be \$4 comics. That is a lot of money for a person who buys 10 titles a week,” Gibbons says. “What I think is going to happen is that comic readers will buy the first book in a series. Then, if they like it, they will wait until all of the books in the series are combined into a graphic novel.”

sports



Eye of the Tiger

watch dog

WHIZZER
redeyesports
@tribune.com

Here's what
I'm watching
this weekend.

NBA

**Bulls vs.
New Jersey**
1 p.m. Saturday, WGN

NHL

**Blackhawks
at Blue Jackets**
4 p.m. Sunday, CSN

NCAA

**Michigan St.
vs. UConn**
5:07 p.m. Saturday, CBS

**Villanova vs.
North Carolina**
7:47 p.m. Saturday, CBS

MLB

**Cubs at
Yankees**
Noon Saturday, CSN



Woods resting up before the Masters

By **Michael Hines**
REDEYE

After nine months in which every Tom, Dick and Sergio tried unsuccessfully to fill golf's power vacuum, Tiger Woods has reclaimed the PGA Tour throne—and not a week too soon.

The Masters tees off Thursday in Augusta, Ga., and it just wouldn't be the same without Woods, who rallied from five strokes back in the final round to win the Arnold Palmer Invitational last week.

He's taking this weekend off, which is fair enough—the guy is coming back from major knee surgery, after all.

So how does the golf Goliath fill his time before the Masters? RedEye imagines pre-tournament to-do list looks a little something like this ...

- » Deliver latest trophy to trophy hangar
- » Take yacht for spin around Puerto Rico
- » Trademark the fist-pump (and collect royalties from wannabes!)
- » Adopt a real tiger
- » Vote for Anoop!
- » Prank call Phil Mickelson
- » Hustle drunk spring breakers at putt-putt course
- » Catch up on episodes of "Reaper" for tips on getting out of my deal with devil

Five on one

Kyra was apprehensive about joining the panel—and worried she wouldn't have time to work on powerhouse dunks. Sign up for weekday Five on Five at redeye.chicago.com/fiveonfive.



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THE TOPIC

It's April. Come up with a new name for March Madness.

Yet another month where I ignore organized sports.

Arch Adness

April Tools

April Foolishness

World War II



Think you can beat John?
E-mail redyeeditor@tribune.com
or text "John" and your e-mail
address to 87708.

SUDOKU CHALLENGE WITH JOHN WILLIAMS

Tune in to John's WGN (720-AM) show from 5 to 9 a.m.

32 min.



9	1	4	8	3	6	7	5	2
6	7	5	9	2	4	8	1	3
3	8	2	1	5	7	4	9	6
2	9	8	5	6	3	1	4	7
7	4	6	2	8	1	5	3	9
1	5	3	4	7	9	6	2	8
8	3	1	7	4	2	9	6	5
4	2	7	6	9	5	3	8	1
5	6	9	3	1	8	2	7	4

FRIDAY'S SOLUTIONS

S	T	E	E	R		P	A	I	N	S		P	O	M
K	A	N	G	A		E	N	D	U	P		U	P	A
I	N	V	O	I	C	E	D	A	T	E		B	A	F
			N	A	V		S	C	U	L	L	S		
S	A	L	T		T	I	N	E			K	N	I	S
C	L	A	R	E	T		Z	I	P	L	O	C		
U	T	T	E	R		M	O	V	I	E		E	P	S
F	A	T	E		M	O	N	E	T		S	N	A	F
F	R	I		J	A	D	E	S		D	E	E	R	E
		C	O	O	P	E	D		C	A	R	R	E	M
S	T	E	I	N		A	R	R	A	I		E	D	
H	O	W	L	E		A	M	O	K					
I	G	O		S	E	R	V	I	C	E	A	R	E	A
F	A	R		E	L	I	O	T		N	O	B	E	L
T	A	S	K		S	T	O	N	Y		S	K	I	L

UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

2	7		8		6			5
5		6		2				9
	9							
7			2			1		
	6						5	
		2			5			7
							3	
3				4		9		2
6			3		7		8	1

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

KAKURO EDITED BY MICHAEL MEPHAM

Enter a number between 1 and 9 in the empty squares. The clues are the numbers in the white circles that give the sum of the solution numbers: above the line are across clues; below the line are down clues. Thus, a clue of 3 will produce a solution of 2 and 1, and a 5 will produce 4 and 1, or 2 and 3, but, of course, which squares they go in will depend on the solution of a clue in the other direction. No digit can be repeated in a solution. Answer at redevechicago.com/answers.

SATURDAY STUMPER BY MERLE BAKER | EDITED BY STANLEY NEWMAN

ACROSS

- Across
- 1 Not broad
 - 11 Narrow margin
 - 15 Just might get
 - 16 Independent Press
 - Awards bestower
 - 17 Tried out, perhaps
 - 18 Star in Cetus
 - 19 "— tu" (Verdi aria)
 - 20 Headlines
 - 21 It means "feather"
 - 22 Edgy
 - 25 Annual sports event
 - 26 "— a theory ..."
 - 27 Identity
 - 30 OT book
 - 31 He swears in Judy Garland
in Judgment at Nuremberg
 - 34 Like some winds
 - 36 Unknown
 - 37 Sort of seat
 - 38 1956 Summer Olympics hosts
 - 40 Gone With
the Wind composer
 - 41 Mt. St. Helens setting
 - 42 Disapproves of
 - 44 Moorlike
 - 46 With
 - 52 Across, '80s action series
 - 47 They may be big
 - 51 Robed ruler
 - 52 See 46 Across
 - 54 Word on a shilling
 - 55 Great —
 - 56 Trifle
 - 59 "Sport" vehicles
 - 60 Diogenes belief
 - 61 Group of Xers?
 - 62 Sports-team personnel

DOWN

- 1 Mole relative
- 2 Language whose name means "normal"
- 3 Light _
- 4 Shaver
- 5 Saving Private Ryan

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13	14
15											16			
17											18			
19					20						21			
22			23	24		25			26					
			27		28			29			30			
31	32	33						34			35			
36								37						
38						39		40						
41				42			43							
44			45			46			47		48	49	50	
51					52				53		54			
55					56				57	58				
59					60									
61					62									

- | | | | | | |
|----|--|----|------------------------------|----|----------------------------------|
| 6 | transport
"a Rainbow"
(Rolling Stones
tune) | 13 | From back to front | 39 | Bibulous |
| | | 14 | Hit back? | 40 | Underhanded one |
| | | 23 | These, in Tijuana | 43 | "_ and what art
thou": Milton |
| 7 | Two-Oscar winner
of '91 | 24 | Turn into a dude | 45 | Head lock |
| | | 26 | Leads | 48 | Capital starter |
| 8 | Realize | 28 | Great Gatsby
gangster | 49 | Minimum |
| 9 | Father of Odysseus | 29 | Schools of thought | 50 | Kay Kyser band
vocalist |
| 10 | They're subj.
to change | 31 | Grabbed | 52 | Rat tail |
| 11 | "I don't like that at all!" | 32 | Rent sharer | 53 | Prefix for physical |
| 12 | Back to one's old
tricks | 33 | Held back | 57 | Criticize |
| | | 35 | Chief Justice after
Chase | 58 | High-school subj. |

SCRABBLE

Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. Finally, 7-letter words get a 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the Official Scrabble Players Dictionary, 3rd Edition. Find the answer at redeyechicago.com/answers.

E ₁	O ₁	U ₁	T ₁	P ₃	L ₁	K ₅
A ₁	O ₁	O ₁	H ₄	M ₃	S ₁	P ₃
E ₁	O ₁	Y ₄	L ₁	R ₁	T ₁	L ₁
A ₁	I ₁	I ₁	N ₁	P ₃	R ₁	S ₁

RACK 1

RACK 2

RACK 3

RACK 4

2nd Letter
Triple

Double Word Score

PAR SCORE 150-160
BEST SCORE 213

FOUR RACK TOTAL _____
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

whoville

BY
JIM
WALSH

KATHERINE HEIGL VS. LINDSAY LOHAN

Diva wars

Katherine Heigl is ready and willing to work—if “Grey’s Anatomy” bigwigs decide to keep her on the show in spite of long-standing rumors she wants out. She’s “there” if her character Izzie, who has been diagnosed with cancer, remains part of the show, Heigl tells [usmagazine.com](#). Plus, she says, the set is one of her “favorite places to be.”

Seems like Heigl really is focusing on keeping her job. Reminds us of Lindsay Lohan, who has been talking about how she’s seeking work again. So who’s more pumped about making a paycheck? Sounds like it’s time for another edition of RedEye’s Faceoff!

HEIGL: In spite of rumors she wants out of “Grey’s,” Heigl said she’d stay if her character isn’t killed off.

BACK STORY

LOHAN: LiLo told Nylon magazine she’s waiting for Seth Rogen to call her about working together. Rogen said he never got the call.

On “Grey’s,” Heigl’s character has, like, a 5 percent chance of surviving cancer.

RECENT SHAME

Her new flick, “Labor Pains,” is going straight to cable.



A TV vet, she’s proven a penchant for movie making.

OTHER SKILLS

A movie vet, she says she wants to model. Plus, she goes to the clubs a lot.

When she was doing contract negotiations back in ‘07, she released a statement saying she wasn’t getting enough respect from the show. Awkward.

MOUTHING OFF

Recently, she blamed “sicko fans” for distracting her from the goal of getting work.

If she can work in TV and do a movie or two, Heigl will be set.

BEST CASE SCENARIO

If she can avoid ringing Jack Nicholson’s door bell in the wee hours of the morning, it’ll be a step up.

WINNER: There’s no question here: LiLo seems to be desperate to work again. Wasn’t “Mean Girls,” like, forever ago?

GREY AREA

We asked RedEye’s Twitter followers who watch “Grey’s Anatomy” to tell us what they think will happen to Katherine Heigl’s cancer-sticken character. Sign up to follow RedEye on Twitter stat at [twitter.com/redeychicago](#).

COMPILED BY SCOTT KLEINBERG.

@shammonds: SHE’S GOING TO LIVE!!!

@londonfrance: She’s toast. Celebrity gossip has ruined prime time suspense.

@mrswindycity: She’ll live. After all she has to change Alex’s life and make him luv again!

@ckdouglass: Not to be insensitive but I hope she croaks. And quickly—I’m so over this drama.

@KaiBP: I think the wedding everyone is saying is happening at the end of the season, is really her and Alex; and not Mer/Der.

@sdliver: I heard K. Heigl was being written out of GA b/c she complained about her storyline. Can’t say I blame her.

@jobwagner: She’ll live. Dying is too easy. But if she does die and Denny comes for her, I’m never watching again. Cheesy!

@girl2008: I think she’s about to pull a “David Crusoe.”

@natg115: It’s pretty obvious that she will not survive this cancer... She will be missed though!

@bsabatinielli: Considering she’s changed her anti-Grey’s position, I think the producers will keep her around.

@chels4590: I heard rumors that she is leaving (going to die), but I hope not!

@phenomenal: I hope she survives, but I know it’s been a lot of talk about her leaving the show so ldk!

@mmluvs_stars: I think it’s all for marketing...she is going to live!



Heigl
AP FILE



Lohan
GETTY IMAGES FILE



red hot

Even Demi Moore's daughter, Rumer Willis, thinks her mom and step dad, Ashton Kutcher, are tweeting a lot. "They do it all the time, and it kind of blows my mind," Willis tells **people.com** about the duo, who've gained a rep for sharing a little TMI with their tweets.

In more serious Twitter news, "Access Hollywood" reported Friday that Moore used Twitter to alert authorities to a possible suicide attempt in California. The San Jose Police Department confirmed they located a woman, and that she had not hurt herself, after Moore re-tweeted suspicious posts.



Rumer Willis
GETTY IMAGES

The tweet life



Ashton Kutcher
and Demi Moore

THE VELVET ROPE

50 and Fall Out

Fall Out Boy frontman Patrick Stump (below) doesn't care if fans aren't stoked about the band touring with 50 Cent (above) this month. "We've encountered a little bit of negative feelings about it," he tells **billboard.com**.

"If you're that stuck-up that you're going to stand there and hate him actively, then go to the concession stand during [his set]."



Roadblock for Madonna adoption

Looks like Madonna might not be adopting another child from Malawi after all. In a surprise move, a judge on Friday rejected her request to adopt a second child from Malawi even though the landlocked African country's child welfare minister had supported her application to raise the 3-year-old girl, The Associated Press reports.

Cast away

Wanna be on "Big Brother"? The CBS reality show is holding a casting call from noon to 6 p.m. Saturday at Rock Bottom (1 W. Grand Ave). You must be at least 21 and a U.S. citizen. More info is at **cbs.com/casting**. And if that's not enough, you might want to consider auditioning for the upcoming Spider-Man musical. (Yeah, it's real. And it has music by Bono and the Edge.) Producers are holding a Chicago casting call from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. May 7 at a location to be announced. E-mail **spidermancasting@gmail.com** to get the deets.

Mickey Rourke mania!

Mickey Rourke is getting back in the ring. The Oscar-nominated "The Wrestler" star will indeed be at WrestleMania for its 25th anniversary Sunday, organizers confirmed Friday. A vet of the spectacle, Rourke will square off against World Wrestling Entertainment star Chris Jericho, whom he challenged at the Screen Actors Guild awards in January.

Foxx stalker?

Police say a man who is accused of stalking Jamie Foxx knocked on the actor's Philadelphia hotel last month and claimed to be Beyonce's music producer, The Associated Press reports. The man is in custody after he returned Tuesday to contact Foxx, who has returned to L.A. after wrapping work on "Law Abiding Citizen."

Foxx
GETTY IMAGES FILE



'ER'
NBC

16.4 million

Number of people who tuned into the "ER" series finale on Thursday, according to Nielsen Media Research

